

**NEWINGTON PARKS & RECREATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2011**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Don Woods called the meeting to order at 7:29PM>

**II. ROLL CALL**

Board: Jon Boni, Bill DeBlasio, Eileen Francolino, Ken Leggo, Ed Marchion, Jim Marocchini, Mary Udice, Don Woods

Board Members Absent: Bernie Feeney, Kathy Zolad

Staff: Superintendent Bruce Till

Town Liaison: None present

**III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2011**

**MOTION: Bill DeBlasio made a motion to approve the minutes of September 20, 2011. Jim Marocchini seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion to approve the minutes of September 20, 2011 was unanimously approved with a 8-0 vote.**

**IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

**V. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS/ REPORTS**

**FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT**

The monthly report was e-mailed to board members. The Fall brochure has been out and most of the fall programs have begun. The Parks & Recreation department is currently planning the Winter programs. A stump grinder is in that the department had purchased. It will aid in the clean-up after the recent hurricane. Eileen Francolino asked about the final figure of the Golf Tournament. Bruce Till estimated that it was approximately \$12,500 range.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

**STARR PARK**

The renovation of the playground equipment at Starr Park has been completed. This is the third park in town to have playground equipment renovated. Beacon Park & Beachwood Park were already done and Candlewyck Park is slated to be next.

**MILL POND**

The Parks & Recreation is working on the poured and place in the Mill Pond playground. Mary Udice asked if the poured and place will be completed before the cold weather sets in. Bruce Till said that they ordered more material and it should be completed before the cold weather sets in. The tennis courts are cracked and need a total reconstruction. The Parks and Recreation department will repair this while estimations for a reconstruction of the tennis court are taken. The bridge by the tennis courts was delivered and put in place this week. Adjustments are being made on one side. One side has been paved and the other side will be set in concrete shortly. The stairs by the falls are projected to be done by the end of the month.

**CHURCHILL PARK GAZEBO**

Bruce Till and Don Woods advised getting a structural engineer to look at the Churchill Gazebo Roof and hopefully work will be done in the spring. A few estimates on replacing the roof have been given.

**MOTION: Mary Udice made a motion to have an engineering firm come out and check the structure of Churchill Gazebo Roof not to exceed \$450.00. Ed Marchion seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion to have an engineering firm come out and check the structure of the Churchill Gazebo Roof was approved with a 8-0 vote.**

#### SYNTHETIC FIELD

This field has been heavily used by midget football, youth programs and Newington High School. Bruce Till has been pleased so far with the cooperation he has received by all the coaches and the acting athletic director of Newington High School. The cameras have been installed on the field. The vendor is bringing brought back to readjust the clarity. Bruce Till has received a few complaints about midget football PA system noise on Sunday mornings.

Bruce Till and Don Woods received phone calls from a concerned citizen who was upset that the field was not open for children to play on it. It was explained to her that there are policies and procedures regarding use of the field. Field time is scheduled and/or rented out. She asked if it could be rented out for children to play on. Bill DeBlasio suggested that the fields could be supervised for a few hours during a school vacation. Bruce Till thought that would be a good idea and possibly could be worked out in the future.

Ken Leggo asked if anything was worked out regarding the signs. Don Woods asked the board if it wanted to charge a sign permit. Eileen Francolino advised having a written policy on what type of signs should go up on the field. Don Woods felt this was a multi-use field and that was a distinguishing factor. Ken Leggo thought about lowering the fee and including all parks and regulating all sign sizes. Eileen Francolino suggested grandfathering signs that are already there but go forward with a written policy regarding types and sizes of signs. The board was split on this issue. After some discussion, Bruce Till suggested that there should be some written policy. He also suggested that the heads of the youth organizations meet with the Sports Council about this policy. Don Woods suggested that it be discussed at the next P&R board meeting scheduled November 15, 2011.

#### **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

The Teen Center will be improved: walls repainted, the carpet cleaned and the linoleum stripped. There are 30-40 kids using it on Friday nights. Bill DeBlasio asked who is responsible for the fencing at the Little League fields. Bill DeBlasio has noticed some disrepair. Both Don Woods and Ken Leggo thought the town repaired the fencing in the past. Ken Leggo met with a band member from the Blackbirds and he had praised Stephanie Boulay's job at the Extravaganza.

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION: A motion was made by Mary Udice to adjourn. Bill DeBlasio seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:14pm with a 8-0 vote.**  
Respectfully submitted,

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Loralyn Callahan